

Southeast Fisheries Science Center
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July 19, 2004

TO: Wayne Witzell,
Protected Resources Branch

FROM: Dennis Lee,
SEFSC Observer Coordinator

SUBJECT: Longline gear Incidental Take summary for quarter 2, 2004

I am providing you with a summary report (see table) of the incidental take of marine turtles, as well as mammals and sea birds that have been recorded by observers aboard longline vessels for April 1 to June 30, 2004. During the regular 8% coverage there were no marine mammals (0), 36 sea turtles (32-leatherbacks-alive; 4-loggerheads-alive), and no seabirds (0) recorded by observers.

With reference to a special Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Project during the quarter, the table summary shows there were no marine mammals, 1 sea turtle (1-leatherback-alive), and no seabirds recorded by observers.

As you will notice, you have been provided the original Sea Turtle Life History (STLH) forms and turtle pictures associated with the quarter 2 regular longline and the GOM Project coverage. After your review of the forms, make any changes necessary and inform Ms. Brown of those changes. Copies of the STLH forms will remain in the Observer data files in Room 314, until such times as you return them to Ms. Brown. Lastly, I am also providing you with a map that defines the three letter abbreviations of the geographical areas of the Atlantic used by the SEFSC observer program.

Attachments

Incidental Take summary table for second quarter of 2004 (by area, turtle species); Original Sea Turtle Life History Forms and associated turtle photographs; and Map of Atlantic geographical areas.

cc: Cheryl Brown;
Gerry Scott, Jim Bohnsack (cover letters only)

Table 1: Percent coverage (by sets),the incidental take of Protected Resource species (turtles, mammals, seabirds), and hook effort summarized by geographical area for April 1 - June 30, 2004. The summary includes a Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Project that called for voluntary participation of several pelagic longline vessels that required 100% observer coverage. (A=Alive, D=Dead, LB=Leatherback,LH=Loggerhead, U=unknown)

AREA	REQUIRED		TURTLES		MAMMALS		BIRDS	
	TOTAL SETS OBSERVED	8% COVERAGE	A LB/LH/U	D	A	D	A	D
CAR-1	16(8+%)	0	1/ 1/0	0	0	0	0	0
GOM-2*	81(5+%)	119	24/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0
FEC-3	6(2+%)	18	1/ 1/0	0	0	0	0	0
SAB-4	37(7+%)	38	1/ 2/0	0	0	0	0	0
MAB-5	18(10%)	14	5/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0
NEC-6	0(0%)	7	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>OFFSHORE</u>	<u>0(0%)</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0/ 0/0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	158(6+%)	203	32/ 4/0	0	0	0	0	0

Hook effort Summary:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Hook effort</u>
CAR	11,743
GOM*	62,956
FEC	1,704
SAB	25,223
MAB	13,474
NEC	0
OFFSHORE	0
TOTAL	115,100

Note: *-GOM area includes the effort provided below from the GOM PROJECT

AREA	SETS	COVERAGE	TURTLES		MAMMAL		BIRDS	
			LB/LH/UN		A	D	A	D
GOM-2	20	100%	1 / 0/ 0	0	0	0	0	0